

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

We claim:

1. (Currently amended). A picture frame assembly comprised of:
 - a frame member having a front surface and a rear surface separated by a perimeter edge, the frame member adapted to receive and retain a transparent member;
 - a backing member having a display surface and a rear surface separated by a side edge, the rear surface having mounting means for mounting on a mounting surface, the rear surface including means for spacing the rear surface a predetermined distance from the mounting surface; and
 - attachment means provided on two adjacent sides of the frame member for removably attaching the ~~front~~ frame member and the backing member.
2. (Original) The picture frame assembly of claim 1, wherein the frame member is further comprised of a transparent member.
3. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 2, wherein the transparent member is selected from the group consisting of glass, plexiglass, plastic, vinyl, acrylics, polymers, and safety glass.
4. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 2, wherein the frame member is further comprised of matting.
5. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 4, wherein the matting is attached to the transparent member.
6. (Currently amended) The picture frame assembly of claim 4, wherein the matting is ~~stenciled~~ adhered to ~~on~~ the transparent member.
7. (Currently amended). The picture frame assembly of claim 1, wherein the attachment means are protruding edges located on the rear surface of the frame member, the protruding edges adapted for slideably and removably engaging the side edge and rear surface of the backing

member.

8. (Currently amended). The picture frame assembly of claim [4] 1, wherein the attachment means is selected from the group consisting of spring retainers, clips, spring loaded ball devices, magnets, hook and loop fasteners, and combinations thereof.
9. (Currently amended). The picture frame assembly of claim 8 7, wherein the backing member further comprises artwork retaining means.
10. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 9, wherein the artwork retaining means is selected from the group consisting of elastic bands, tack sheets, tack spray, release tape, non-permanent adhesive means, and combinations thereof.
11. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 10, wherein the artwork retaining means is comprised of at least one elastic band.
12. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 11, wherein the display surface further comprises a groove for retaining each at least one elastic band in a desired orientation.
13. (Currently amended). A picture frame assembly comprised of:
 - a frame member having a front surface and a rear surface separated by a perimeter edge, the frame member adapted to receive and retain a transparent member;
 - a backing member having a display surface and a rear surface separated by a side edge, the rear surface having mounting means for mounting on a mounting surface;
 - and
 - attachment means for removably attaching the front member and the backing member;
 - wherein the frame member is further comprised of matting;
 - wherein the attachment means is selected from the group consisting of protruding edges, spring retainers, clips, spring loaded ball devices, magnets, hook and loop fasteners, and combinations thereof;
 - wherein the backing member further comprises artwork retaining means is comprised of at least one elastic band;

wherein the display surface further comprises a groove for retaining each at least one elastic band in a desired orientation; and

~~The picture frame assembly of claim 12,~~ wherein the groove is further comprised of a raised surface at about the longitudinal center of the groove.

14. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 4, wherein the frame member is comprised of corrosion-resistant rigid material selected from the group consisting of plastic, composites, aluminum, coated metal, and combinations thereof.
15. (Original). The picture frame of claim 14, wherein the mounting means are selected from the group consisting of mounting holes, screws, sawtooth hangers, braided wire, picture hangers, and combinations thereof.
16. (Currently amended). A method of displaying artwork, the method comprised of the steps of:
- providing a mounting surface;
 - providing artwork;
 - providing a picture frame assembly, the picture frame assembly comprised of:
 - a frame member having a front surface and a rear surface divided by a perimeter edge, the frame member adapted to receive and retain a transparent member;
 - a backing member having a display surface and a rear surface separated by a side edge, the rear surface having mounting means for mounting on a mounting surface the rear surface including means for spacing the rear surface a predetermined distance from the mounting surface; and
 - attachment means provided on two adjacent sides the frame member for removably attaching the ~~front~~ frame member and the backing member;
 - mounting the backing member to a mounting surface;
 - attaching the artwork to the display surface; and
 - attaching the frame member to the backing member.

17. (Currently amended). A picture frame comprised of:

a frame member having a front surface and a rear surface divided by a perimeter edge, the frame member having a transparent member and matting in contact with the transparent member;

a backing member removably attached to the frame member by attachment means, the backing member having a display surface and a rear surface separated by a side edge, the rear surface having mounting means for mounting on a mounting surface, the mounting means including a mounting block for spacing the rear surface a predetermined distance from the mounting surface;

wherein the attachment means are provided on two adjacent sides of the frame member, and are selected from the group consisting of protruding edges, spring retainers, clips, spring loaded ball devices, magnets, hook and loop fasteners, and combinations thereof.

18. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 17, wherein the backing member further comprises artwork retaining means selected from the group consisting of elastic bands, tack sheets, tack spray, release tape, non-permanent adhesive means, and combinations thereof.

19. (Original). The picture frame assembly of claim 18, wherein the artwork retaining means is comprised of at least one elastic band, and wherein the display surface further comprises a groove for retaining each at least one elastic band in a desired orientation.

20. (Currently amended). A picture frame assembly comprised of:

a frame member having a front surface and a rear surface divided by a perimeter edge, the frame member having a transparent member and matting in contact with the transparent member;

a backing member removably attached to the frame member by attachment means, the backing member having a display surface and a rear surface separated by a side edge, the rear surface having mounting means for mounting on a mounting surface;

wherein the attachment means are selected from the group consisting of protruding edges, spring retainers, clips, spring loaded ball devices, magnets, hook and loop fasteners, and combinations thereof; and

wherein the artwork retaining means is comprised of at least one elastic band, and wherein the display surface further comprises a groove for retaining each at least one elastic band in a desired orientation, ~~The picture frame assembly of claim 19,~~ wherein the groove is further comprised of a raised surface at about the longitudinal center of the groove.